Statement

Monthly quantities of rice, wheat sugar, kerosene oil allocated to North Eastern States

('000 Tonnes)

	*Rice	*Wheat	Sugar	#Kerosene
1. Arunachal Pradesh	6.59	0.57	0.366	0.829
2. Assam	34.92	20.38	9.524	21.980
3. Manipur	4.16	1.71	0.782	1.839
4. Meghalaya	9.82	2.14	0.752	1.687
5. Mizoram	7.30	1.05	0.293	0.656
6. Nagaland	7.54	3.59	0.542	1.150
7. Sikkim	2.99	0.42	0.174	0.656
8. Tripura	11.48	1.28	1.173	2.621

*As per Targetted Public Distribution System Scheme
#For 1997-98

PDS scheme in Kerala

3677. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a stationary ration system is existing in Kerala;

(b) the offtake of rice and wheat during the last three years for PDS in Kerala;

(c) the total families benefited by the new PDS scheme in Kerala;

(d) whether Government proposed to increase the issue price of rice and wheat through PDS in Kerala;

(e) the issue price of wheat and rice increased during last three years; and

(f) the total amount received by FCI through these increase, year-wise, particularly from Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Allocation and offtake of wheat and rice in Kerala during the last three years are as under:—

(in '000 MT)

	WHEAT		RICE	
	Alln.	Off.	Alln.	Off.
1994-95	445.00	386.80	1800.00	118.10
1995-96	585.00	557.40	1800.00	1170.60
1996-97	572.50	544.00	1847.00	1530.80

(c) Under new PDS the average annual lifting by the States for the last 10 years is maintained and out of that the quantum required for issue to families Below Poverty Line @ 10 Kgs. per month, per family, is set apart. The number of families Below Poverty Line in Kerala is estimated to be about 15.35 lakhs.

(d) Consequent upon the introduction of IPDS, the central Issue Prices of wheat and rice issued from Central Pool will stand revised throughout the country with effect from 1st June, 1997 as under:—

(Rs. per quintal)

	RICE			WHEAT
	Common	Fine	Super-fine	
For families Above Poverty Line	—	650.00	750.00	450.00
For families Below Poverty Line	350.00	350.00	—	250.00

(e) There is no increase in the Central Issue Prices during the last three years;

(f) *Does not arise.*

PDS coming to a breaking point in West Bengal

3678. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the stoppage of supply of wheat and slashing sugar quota by the Food Corporation of India, the Public Distribution System in West

Bengal has been reported to have come to a breaking point;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar situation has been reported in other States and Union Territories during the second half of 1996 and first quarter of 1997;

(d) whether Government propose to discontinue the Public Distribution System under such circumstances; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Including NCCF in the list of cooperative institutions

3679. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have included the National Consumers Cooperative Federation (NCCF) in the list of cooperative institutions that were making supplies of stationery and other items to the Government departments;

(b) whether the NCCF was required to draw up a list of items on its inventory together with sale price shown against each item and to forward the same to all the Government departments;

(c) if so, whether NCCF has drawn such a list with sale price; and

(d) whether NCCF is indicating the specifications of the items on its bills/ invoices to Government departments as is done by the Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the NCCF, the prices are quoted to Government Departments against specific enquiries. The NCCF is however maintaining price-list of standard items being handled by them, in their branches.

(d) The NCCF has informed that they are indicating the specification of the items on the bills and invoices to the Government Departments in most of the cases.

Bringing medical practitioners under the purview of Consumers (Protection) Act

3680. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whther Government have studied, in depth, the implications of the recent Supreme Court judgment bringing medical practitioners under the purview of the Consumers (Protection) Act;

(b) whether the matter has been further discussed with the Medical Council of India; and

(c) the measures proposed to be undertaken to ensure compliance of the Supreme Court Judgment?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) In the judgment given on the Civil Appeal No. 688 of 1993, between Indian Medical Association versus V.P. Shantha & others the Supreme Court clarified that the medical profession was already covered